



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. application of:

Akira TSUBOUCHI, Kiyoshi OKUBO, and Yasus

WATANABE

For:

HOLLOW RACK SHAFT AND

MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF

U.S. Serial No.:

09/994,526

Confirmation No.:

8523

Filed:

November 27, 2001

Group Art Unit:

3683

Examiner:

Kramer, Devon C.

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner

for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

THE WAR TO I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: BOX-NON-FEE AMENDMENT, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on March 7, 2003 Date of Deposit Brian E. Harris Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative March 7, 2003 Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action, dated February 10, 2003, which provides for a response period ending March 12, 2003.